

Message Text

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47 45

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 AF-10 DRC-01 /159 W

----- 036136

R 051650Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5137

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS DUBLIN 1472

EO 11652 N/A

TAGS: PBOR/EI

SUBJ: INTERVIEW WITH GENERAL HERZOG

1. "IRISH TIMES" NOV 3 CARRIES INTERVIEW GIVEN BY GENERAL CHAIM HERZOG TO IRISH CORRESPONDENT HENRY KELLY. REPORTER SAYS TALK LASTED TWO HOURS. MUCH OF IT DEALS WITH HERZOG'S BOYHOOD IN BELFAST AND DUBLIN. WHILE HERZOG'S VIEWS ARE PROBABLY WELL KNOWN TO DEPT, FOLLOWING MAY BE WORTH NOTE.

2. REPORTER QUOTES HERZOG AS FOLLOWS: "THIS REALLY ISN'T AN ARAB-ISRAELI WAR. IT'S A BIG-POWER WAR. WE ARE BOTH GOVERNED BY THEM. THE RUSSIANS PLANNED THE WHOLE THING AND HOPE TO GAIN AT ONE FELL SWOOP WHAT THEY HAVE ALWAYS WANTED--THE OIL FIELDS."

3. HERZOG SAYS ISRAELI INTELLIGENCE WAS SURPRISED BY ARAB ATTACK BECAUSE ARABS HAD BEEN PREPARING FOR WAR FOR THREE YEARS AND IT BECAME A "WOLF, WOLF SITUATION." BUT ISRAELIS RECOVERED AFTER FIRST WEEK OF WAR AND "THE ONLY THING THAT STOPPED US DOING WHAT WE WANTED MILITARILY WAS THE INTERVENTION OF THE SUPER-POWERS... IN ANOTHER WEEK, WE WOULD HAVE WON COMPLETELY. TWO DAYS WOULD HAVE WIPED OUT THE EGYPTIAN THIRD ARMY AND WE WERE ALREADY

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THREATENING CAIRO."

4. GOING BACK A FEW YEARS, HERZOG SAID HIS STRUGGLES
AGAINST BRITISH IN LAST SIX MONTHS OF MANDATE WERE THE
WORST EXPERIENCE OF HIS LIFE. "I HATED IT (THE MANDATE)
AND THEM." HE SAID.

5. DEPT PASS TEL AVIV IF DESIRED.
SORENSEN

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NNN

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